(d) if so, by when the dues are likely to be cleared by NTC?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA): (a) to (d) Since cotton is purchased by the NTC mills on credit terms, there are bound to be certain outstanding dues to the cotton suppliers including Maharashtra State Cooperative Cotton Growers' Federation of any given point of time. During the last few years due to acute shortage of working capital, the NTC has fallen into arrears in clearing the cotton dues. As on 31.3.1997, the NTC's outstanding dues to the Maharashtra State Cooperative Cotton Growers' Federation are Rs. 123.20 cr. provisionally subject to reconciliation. NTC is expected to clear these dues on availability of funds.

Proposals for promoting Handicrafts in Gujarat

140. SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of proposals received from the Government of Gujarat for promotion of handicrafts in the State during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) the number of proposals out of them pending or under consideration as on date;

(c) whether Government have prepared any scheme for promotion of handicrafts in Kachch region;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the amount spent on the promotion of handicrafts in Gujarat, particularly in Kachch region during the last three years, year-wise, and the current year, till date?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA): (a) and (b) No proposal has been received from the Govt. of Gujarat for the promotion of handicrafts in the State during the last three years. However the number of proposal received during the last three years from Gujarat State Handicrafts Corpn. and various Non-Government Organisations and the number of proposals pending as on date is as under:

Number of received	Proposals	Total	Pending as on date
1994-95	1995-96	1996-97	117	3
46	47	24		

(c) and (d) For the promotion of handicrafts in the country including in the Kachch region of Gujarat the schemes of the Govt. include: training, marketing programme, exhibition & publicity, design development and marketing development support.

(e) The amount spent on the promotion of handicraft in Gujarat including in Kachch region during the last three years and current year till date is as under:—

(Rs. in lakhs)

1994-95	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98
			(till date)
51.05	80.42	45.65	Nil

Payment to the Workers eligible under the TWRF Scheme

141. SHRI RAMJI LAL:
SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Office of the Textile Commissioner has received a copy of the letter No. 8 (331)/IND/TEX/ASR/2953-54 dated 17.7.92 regarding payment to the workers of Himachal Worsted Mills Ltd., Nalagarh, Solan, under the TWRF Scheme with reference to D.O. letter No. 6/26/91/O&M/31 dated 25.6.92;

(b) whether in this letter it has been communicated that the Office of the Textile Commissioner of Amritsar has iden-

tified the workers eligible under the TWRF Scheme and the amount involved therein;

(c) if so, the number of such eligible workers and the amount to be paid to them under this scheme; and

(d) the reasons for which the payment has not been made so far and the steps taken to release the payment without any further delay?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise in view of reply to part (d) below.

(d) The Textile Workers' Rehabilitation Fund Scheme has not so far been extended to Central and State Textile PSUs.

Revival plan for Sick Mills

142. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:
SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL:
SHRIMATI ANANDIBEN JETHABHAI PATEL:
SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:
DR. MANMOHAN SINGH:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that his Ministry has finalised a new revival package for sick National Textile Corporation and NJMC mills recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that a large number of NTC mills are declared sick in Gujarat; and

(d) if so, the action plan prepared or proposed by Government under the revival package scheme?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA): (a) to (d) On account of the net worth erosion, 8 out of 9 subsidiaries of NTC have been referred to and declared sick by the BIFR. Government approved and placed before the BIFR a revised Turn Around Strategy involving modernisation of 79 mills at an outlay of Rs. 2005.72 crores, restructuring of 36 unviable mills into 18 viable units etc. The funds for modernisation have to be raised from sale of surplus lands and assets of NTC mills. The BIFR did not find the package viable in respect of four subsidiaries including NTC (Guj.) and issued show cause notices for winding up. The NTC (Guj.) Ltd. declared sick by the BIFR has under it 11 mills.

The revised Turn Around Strategy could not be implemented as sale of surplus land has not materialised due to reluctance of Govt. of Maharashtra to approve the sale of surplus land, particular because more than 80% of the sale proceeds will accrue from the Mumbai lands of NTC. Also the BIFR has not yet approved the package. In this background, the NTC has reviewed the unit-wise viability keeping in view the concessions agreed to by the Government in 1995 and the concept of net worth becoming positive. A revised turn around plan, 1997 on the basis of this report is under consideration of the Government. The salient features of this plan as and when finalised will be laid on the Table of the House.

As far as NJMC mills are concerned, Government are considering a revival package envisaging conversion of loan into equity, waiver of interest, fresh injection of funds, provisions of funds for VRS etc.

In respect of both NTC and NJMC, Government is extending budgetary support towards payment of salaries, wages and bonus.

हथकरघों के द्वारा कपड़ा-उत्पादन का विकास

143. **श्री शिव चरण सिंह:** क्या वस्त्र मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि सरकार द्वारा राजस्थान, मध्य प्रदेश और असम में हथकरघों के द्वारा वस्त्र उत्पादन के